GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1552
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2006
SALE OF FAKE GOODS
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Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of sale of fake/spurious consumer goods in the market have been reported recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the current year;

(c) the loss of revenue suffered by the Government as a result thereof;

(d) whether the Government has reviewed the adequacy of the legal and administrative mechanism to check such incidents;

(e) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(f) the steps taken to safeguard the interest of the consumers?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN)

(a) : Sale of goods with spurious ISI marking comes within the purview of Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS). The Bureau has been getting information regarding such goods which are being manufactured without valid licence from BIS and being sold in the market.

(b) : BIS have conducted search and seizures. Details for the last three years are given below:

Year	Number of search & seizures
2003-04	206
2004-05	217
2005-06(upto Feb 2006)	172

(c) : There are no direct losses of revenue to BIS as a result of the above.

(d) to (f): BIS has a procedure laid down to deal with such cases and has a separate Enforcement Department with nodal enforcement officers in all its 33 branches. The enforcement and legal activity of the Bureau has been strengthened over the years. The above search and seizures are being conducted to safeguard the interest of the consumers. Besides wide publicity is made to create awareness among consumers about fake ISI goods.

Further under the provisions of the consumer Protection Act, 1986 an aggrieved consumer has an option to file a complaint in the concerned consumer forum in case any goods purchased by him are found to be fake or spurious. The provisions of the Act have adequately empowered the consumer fora to exercise powers which are compensatory, punitive and preventive in nature. In addition, a consumer can also seek legal remedy against fake/spurious goods under provisions of the Indian Penal Code etc.,